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Era Photography, Issaquah School
District and Issaquah Alps Trails Club

2013 SUSTAINABLE CITY REPORT

COMMUNITY

SUSTAINABILITY

INDICATOR UPDATES

Updated: September 2013



CITY OF
ISSAQUAH
WASHINGTON

Office of Sustainability
Issaquahwa.gov/sustainability

The Community Sustainability Indicators provide an update on measuring the community's progress toward long-term sustainability goals. A snapshot of the Sustainability Indicators are included in the 2013 Sustainable City Report, which is available online: [2013 Sustainable City Report](#). The Community Sustainability Indicator Updates provide a more detailed look at several of the 26 indicators established by the Sustainability Sounding Board in 2009.

The Community Sustainability Indicators are grouped into eight primary **Sustainability Themes**:

- Basic Needs
- Business Climate
- Education
- Community Awareness and Stewardship
- Green, Compact, Mixed-Use Development
- Natural Areas & Open Space
- Transportation - Mobility
- Waste/Resource Use

The indicators are updated every one to two years though data sets vary depending upon reporting cycles for agencies or organizations which collect, validate and report underlying data. In some cases, data reporting methodologies have changed, in which case the data set may have show differing periods of coverage.

Basic Needs	Business Climate	Community Awareness & Stewardship	Education
Community Health	Business Diversity	Quality of Life	Extended Graduation Rate
Community Safety	Job-Housing Balance	Volunteerism	School Safety
Food Bank Use	Participation in the Arts	Voter Turnout	Advanced Placement Class Enrollment
Housing Affordability Gap	Revenue Base Diversity		
Green, Compact, Mixed-Use Development	Natural Areas & Open Space	Transportation - Mobility	Waste/Resource Use
Current and Planned Density	Preserved Natural Open Space	Carbon Footprint	Energy Use
Green Buildings	Food Grown Locally	Transportation by Type	Renewable Energy Use
Population Density	Stream Health	Walkability	Waste Generation
	Tree Canopy		Water Use

The foundational Sustainability Sounding Board Report, Measuring What Matters (2009), may be found [online](#).

What is community health?

Community health measures the percentage of residents with health insurance.

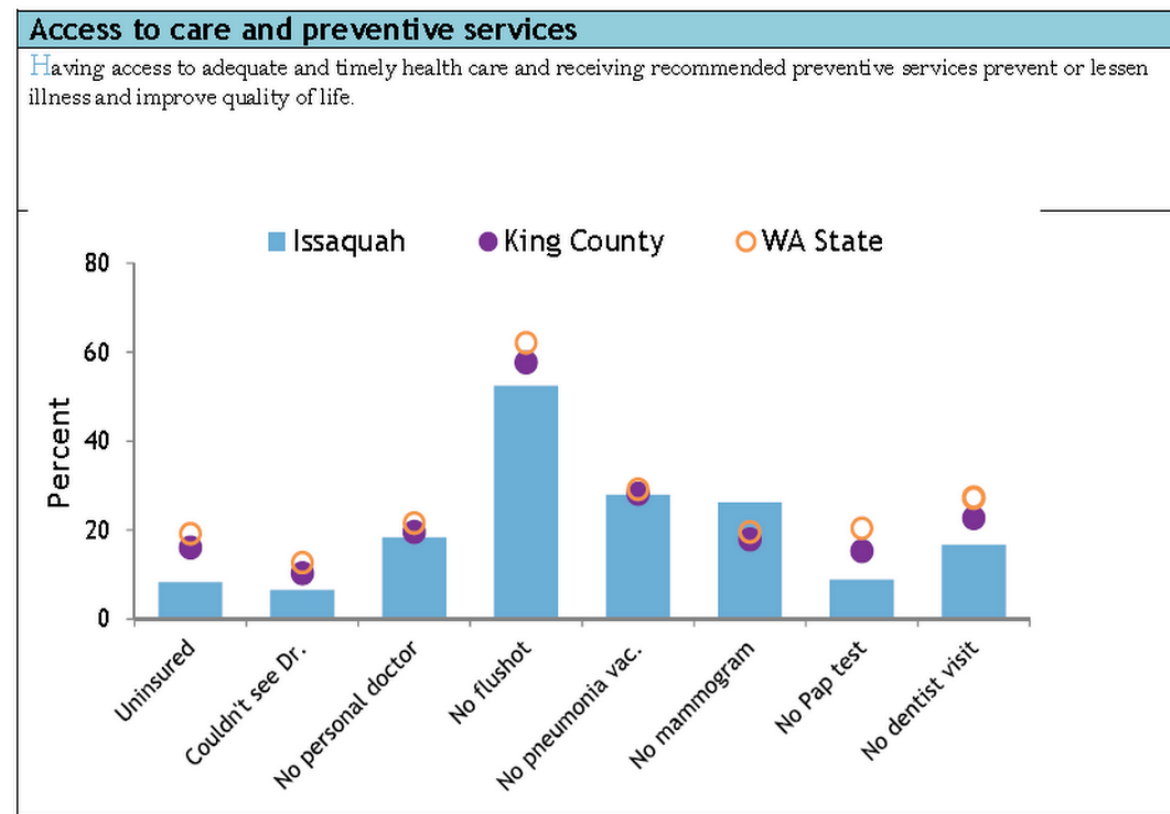
Why is community health important?

An inability to access to primary healthcare needs has sweeping impacts on public health, economic stability, education and social equity across racial and ethnic groups and income levels within a community. Rising healthcare costs and unemployment, has made this issue even more crucial. In 2009, the Sustainability Sounding Board recommended community health as one of 13 'key' indicators of sustainability for the Issaquah Community.

How is Issaquah doing?

According to [King County City Health Profile for Issaquah](#), 8% of adults (age 18-64) are uninsured. This is half of the King County percentage of adults that are uninsured and well below Washington State's uninsured rate of 19%.

King County releases city health profiles that provide information on health indicators to inform about population health at the local level. For each report there are seven sections that provide information about the following indicators: demographics, general health status, leading causes of death, health risk factors and chronic diseases, injury and violence-related morality, maternal and infant health and access to care and preventative services.



Basic Needs
COMMUNITY SAFETY

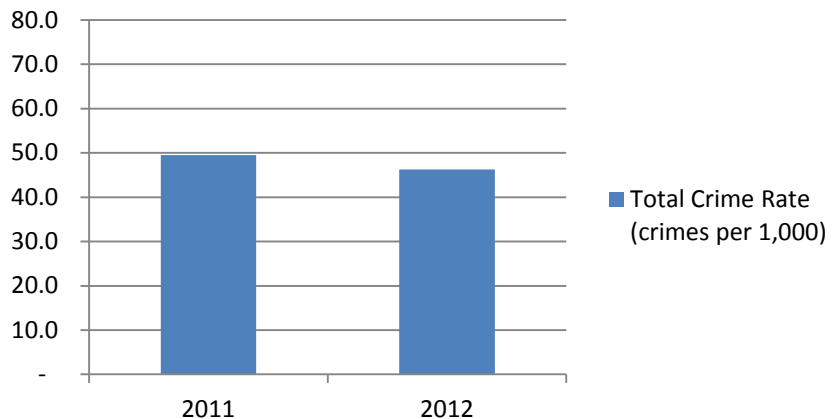
Update 2013

Community safety is defined as the reported crime rate in Issaquah. The reported property crime rate data was tracked and runs through 2009, after which a new federal crime tracking and reporting protocol went into place in Issaquah. Starting in 2010, the total crime rate is being reported using the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS).

Property crime is the number of burglaries, theft, motor vehicle theft and arson committed. From the period 1998 to 2009, the property crime rate ranged from 2.6% in 2009 To 6.4% in 2005.

In 2012 Issaquah crime rate was 46.2 per thousand persons (utilizing the NIBRS tracking methodology). This represented a 5.3% drop in crimes from 2011. In total, there were 1,440 crimes reported in Issaquah in 2012.

Total Crime Rate (crimes per 1,000)



Issaquah's Targets and Goal

While there is no specific target for this indicator, Issaquah strives to decrease property and violent crimes to continue its downward trend.

Issaquah strives to decrease crime. Furthermore, Issaquah strives to ensure that community members develop a sound relationship with each other and the Issaquah Police Department, by connecting residents to community resources.

Community Highlights

When crime does occur, our law enforcement is trained and ready. In 2012, four police officers received the state's highest law enforcement award – the Washington State Law Enforcement Medal of Honor – for saving lives during an active shooter incident.

Basic Needs FOOD BANK USE

2013 Update

What is food bank use?

Food bank use is defined as the number of individuals and families served by the Issaquah Food Bank per year.

Why is food bank use important?

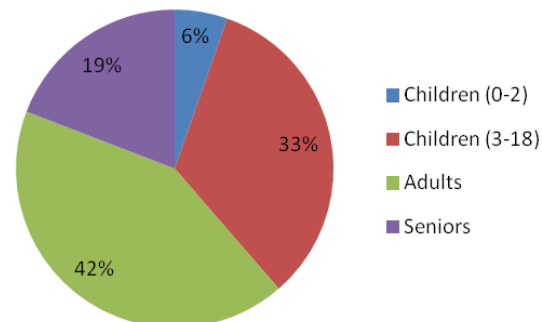
The use of food banks by Issaquah individuals and families is an indicator of the number of residents in need, as well as how well the community is serving the basic economic and social needs of these residents. In 2009, the Sustainability Sounding Board recommended food bank use as one of 13 'keystone' indicators for the Issaquah community.

How is Issaquah doing?

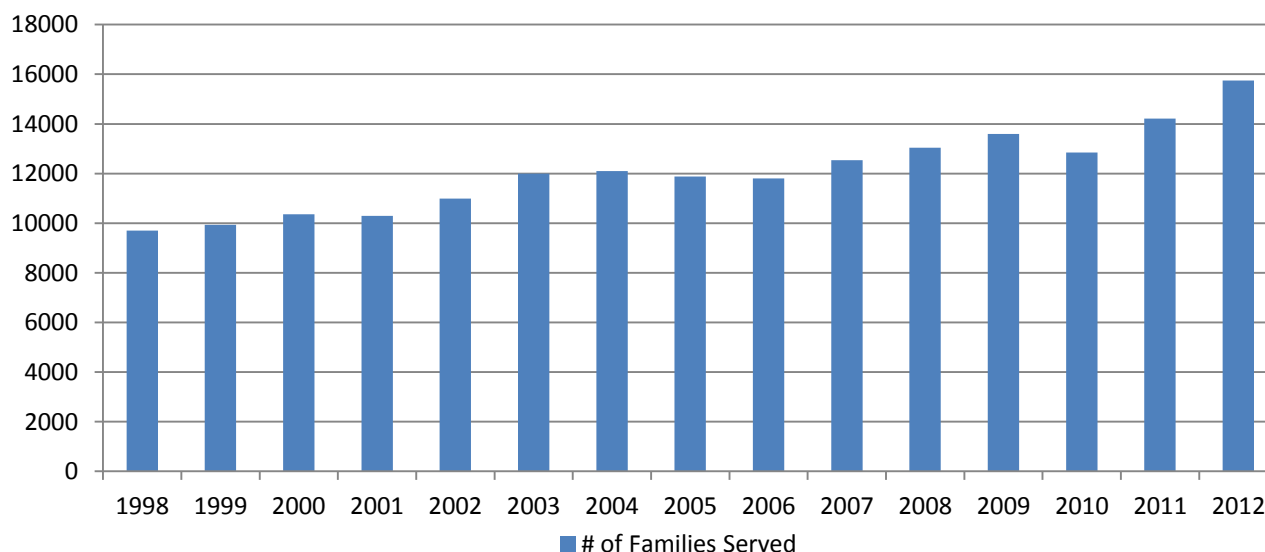
In 2012, the Issaquah food bank served the highest number of individuals and families: 15,742, reflecting a steady increase in service to families in need in the community.

Starting in 2010, data collection methodologies were updated, standardizing and improving data quality overall.

Food Bank Clients, 2012



Food Bank - Number of Families Served



Basic Needs

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY GAP

2013 Update

What is housing affordability?

Housing affordability gap is defined as the difference between the price of a home affordable to median income household compared to the median price of homes on the market. The indicator also tracks the number of affordable units available as a percentage of total housing stock.

Why is housing affordability important?

Ensuring a supply of affordable housing options allows for increased diversity of income levels and supports living wage level occupations within a community. Low income households also pay a higher percentage of income for housing, leaving little for basic necessities.

What are Issaquah's goals?

Issaquah has adopted the following goals:

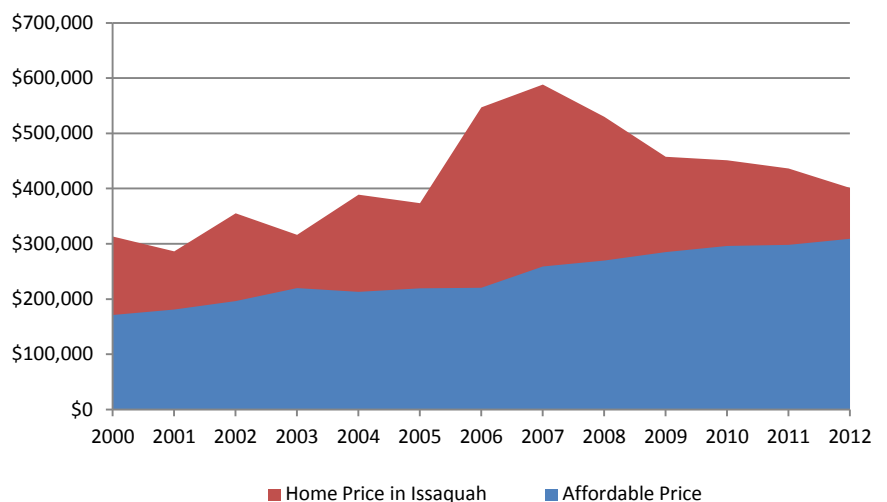
- 17% of new housing units are affordable to moderate income households with 50-80% of King County median household income
- 24% of new housing units are affordable to low income households with incomes below 50% of the King County median household income
- Ensure that as Issaquah grows, there is no net loss in the supply of housing.

Targets for the housing affordability gap do not currently exist. However, the existing targets described above demonstrate that Issaquah desires to increase housing affordability, specifically by increasing the number of homes available to low and moderate income residents. Accordingly, the City would hope to see a downward trend in the difference between median income and median sales price as well as an upward trend in the percentage of affordable housing units available to low and moderate income residents in Issaquah.

How is Issaquah doing?

- The difference between the average home prices and the price affordable to a household earning the median income in King County decreased to \$92,032 in 2012. Issaquah's housing affordability gap for the past 10 years has consistently been higher than that of King County.

Housing Affordability Gap



Resources and Actions

Explore affordable housing options, volunteer and support more affordable homes locally.

[ARCH](#) - ARCH provides assistance to find rental and ownership housing, financial support to create affordable housing and assistance in housing policy development.

[KCHA](#) - the King County Housing Authority provides affordable housing, education, job training and social services to residents who earn less than the county median income.

[YWCA](#) – a leader in providing support to women and their families with ongoing housing and critical support services. The YWCA operates the Family Village at Issaquah.

[Habitat for Humanity of East King County](#) – a builder of over homes to help low-income Eastside residents purchase simple, decent, affordable homes. Habitat depends on donated land, labor, money and materials from individuals, organizations and local businesses. Volunteers of all skill levels work with Habitat staff to construct homes.

What is business diversity?

Business diversity is defined as the number of businesses in Issaquah by size, ownership location, employment, longevity, and type.

Why is business diversity important?

The number, type, size, employment, longevity and ownership of businesses in Issaquah are critical measures of the health of the local economy. A diverse business base is important because it provides a resilient economic foundation and access to a variety of products and services. Local ownership, investment and buying supports local businesses, entrepreneurial activity, local employment and connections to community values and priorities. In 2009, the Sustainability Sounding Board recommended business diversity as one of 13 'keystone' indicators of sustainability for the Issaquah community.

What are Issaquah's goals?

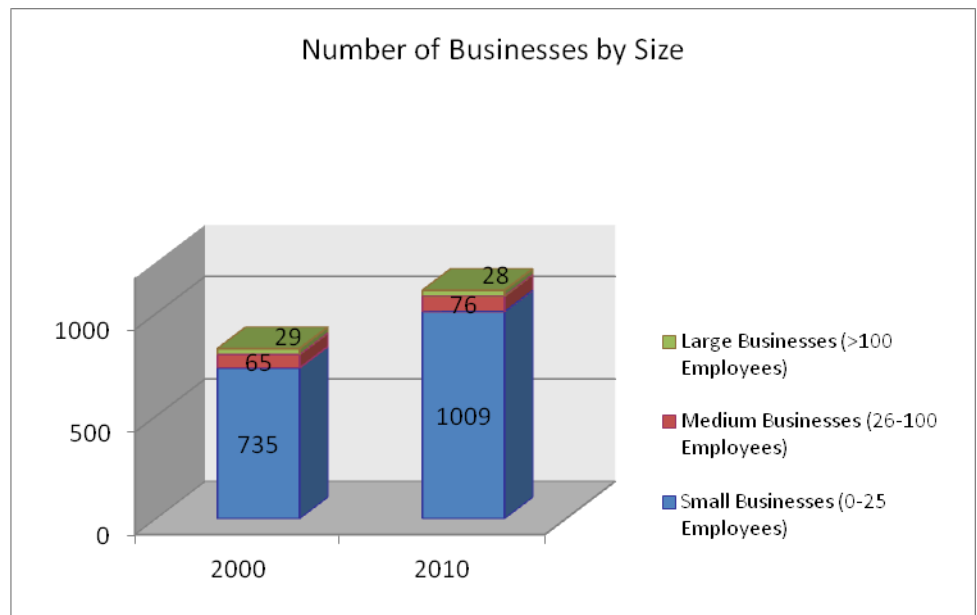
Issaquah strives to encourage local economic vitality by promoting and encouraging a diversity of goods and services and employment opportunities within the city.

How is Issaquah doing?

In 2012, the City established an Economic Vitality Commission to help assess strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats and make recommendations for strategies for improvement.

The total employment within the City has increased over the last 10 years. The diversity of business is less conclusive as the service sector has increase significantly but is a large category of

employment. As current and more refined data is available this indicator will be evaluated.



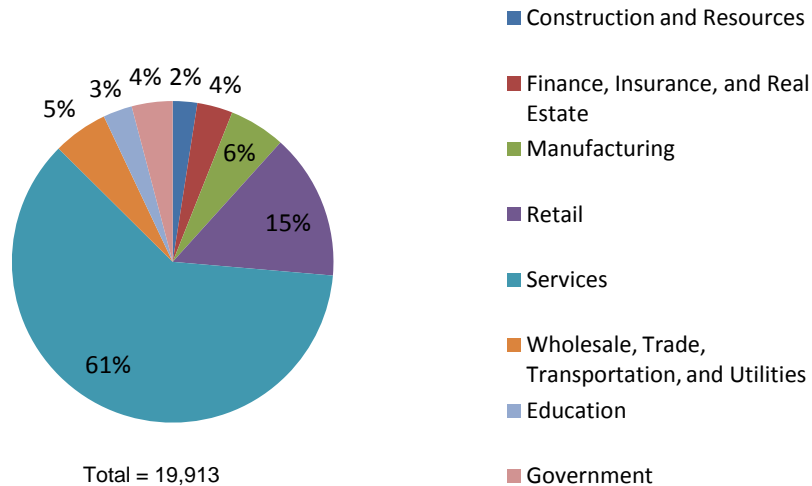
Employment

- Over 90% of all businesses in Issaquah are small businesses (businesses with <25 employees), which has remained relatively constant since 2000. However, the number of small businesses in Issaquah has increased from 829 to 1009 in 2010.
- The number of large businesses (businesses with >100 employees) has remained relatively constant at 28 businesses as of 2010 data.

Employment by Sector

- 61% of all employees in Issaquah are in the service sector, which employs 12,164 people in Issaquah and is by far the largest sector in Issaquah. This sector has grown significantly since 2000, from 8,024 employees (53.4%).
- 15% of employment in Issaquah is in the retail sector. The percentage of retail businesses in Issaquah has declined since a peak in 2008 with 3,469 employees to 2,921 employees in 2011.

Employees by Sector (2011)



Resources

Issaquah Economic Vitality Commission (www.issaquahwa.gov)

Shop Issaquah! (www.shopissaquah.org) Find local deals and listings of businesses located in Issaquah.

Downtown Issaquah (www.downtownissaquah.org)

Discover Issaquah (www.discoverissaquah.org)

Seattle Good Business Network (www.goodbusiness.org)

What is job-housing balance?

Job-housing balance is the ratio of total jobs to total housing units in Issaquah.

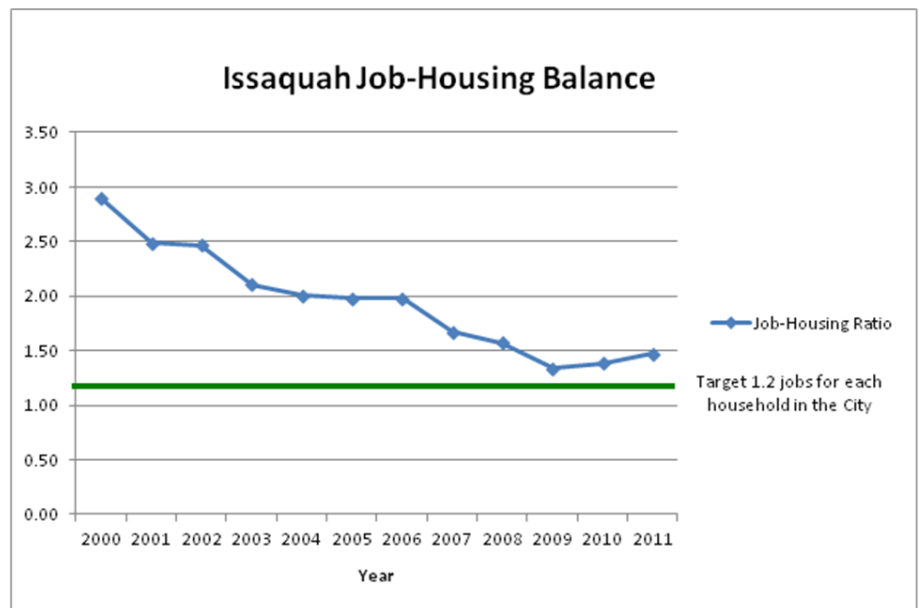
Why is job-housing balance important?

A balance between jobs and housing means that Issaquah is more evenly matched and more likely to be able to provide adequate housing for those working in Issaquah and adequate jobs for those living in Issaquah. There is a more adequate amount of housing growth to support employment growth in the City as this ratio nears 1.0. An imbalance results in longer commutes (either to homes or jobs), traffic congestion, air emissions, deterioration of physical and mental health and community strength. It is important to note that while job-housing balance reflects the ratio of jobs and housing, it does not describe the affordability of housing or the wage levels of jobs in the community.

What are Issaquah's targets?

The City of Issaquah works with King County and other jurisdictions to establish GMA targets for jobs and housing that seeks to create a regional or sub-regional "balance" between housing and jobs.¹

The City has submitted an application for designation as a Regional Urban Center following the Central Issaquah Plan process, which was adopted in 2012. The Central Issaquah Plan proposes an increase in jobs and housing in the valley floor to substantially increase compact, mixed use development. Updates to housing and employment targets would follow.



How is Issaquah doing?

Issaquah is moving in the right direction.

In 2000, there were 2.9 jobs per home in Issaquah. By 2011, the ratio was 1.47. The job-housing ratio for Issaquah is on par with the King County average, which, in 2009, was 1.36 jobs per household, compared to Issaquah's 1.34 ratio. Issaquah is moving in the right direction, but

¹ City of Issaquah, "Comprehensive Plan, 2008: Housing, Objective H-7.6", City of Issaquah, <http://issaquahwa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1268>

continued attention to both housing and jobs growth in concert with improvements in mobility will be required. Matching housing to the labor force will also be important as job growth increases in the City.

Resources and Actions

Share the ride. Visit [Rideshare Online](#) for information, incentives and resources to vanpool, carpool, transit, bike, park and ride lots and other options to improve the commute for yourself and your employees.

What is participation in the arts?

Participation in the arts measures attendance at entertainment, cultural, and art events in Issaquah.

Why is participation in the arts important?

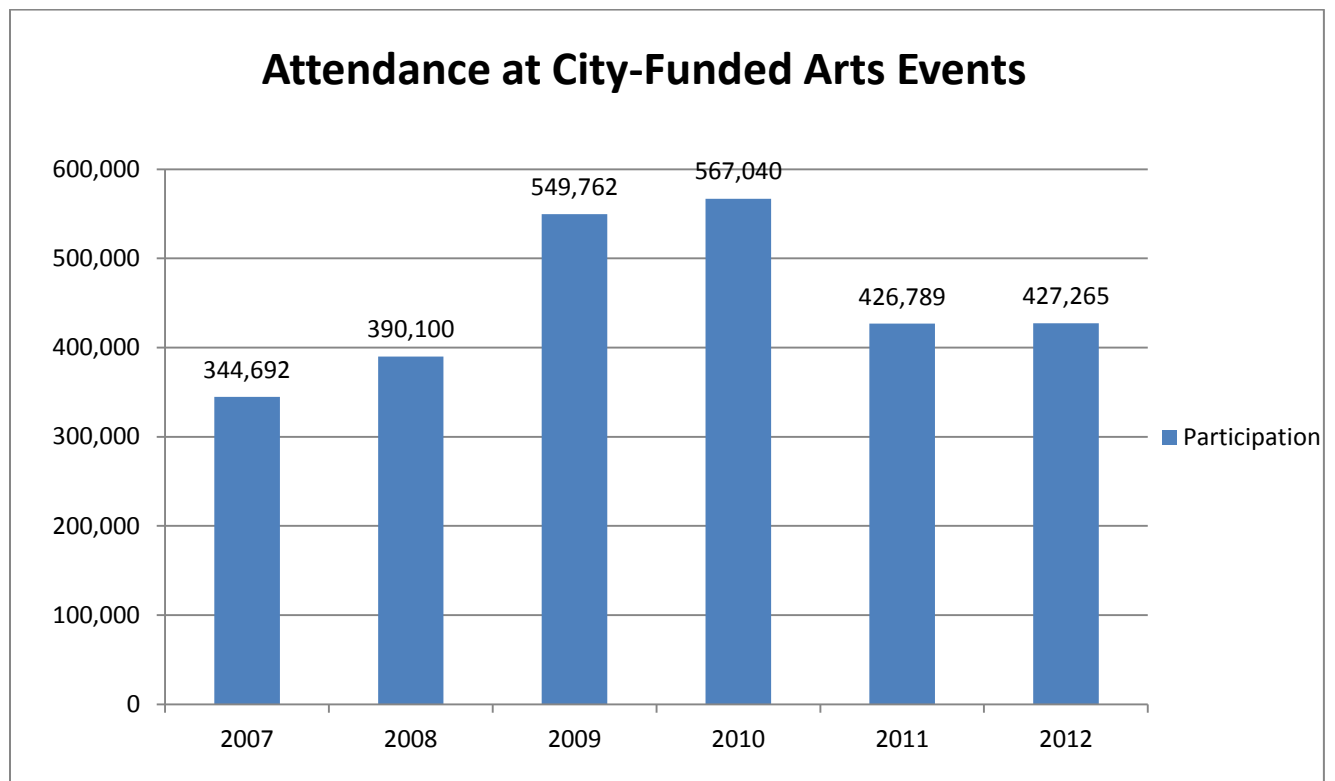
Arts and culture is seen as an asset to local economic development, as many businesses and residents look to these amenities when making location decisions. Furthermore, exposure to different cultures and ideas fosters understanding between diverse community members. In 2009, the Sustainability Sounding Board recommended participation in the arts as one of 13 'keystone' indicators for the Issaquah community.

What are Issaquah's goals?

The City of Issaquah strives to enhance Issaquah residents' quality of life through a balanced economic vitality strategy that includes diverse cultural resources. Since residents that participate in the arts are exposed to many diverse cultures, the City of Issaquah also strives to increase Issaquah residents' quality of life through increased participation in the arts.

How is Issaquah doing?

The 2012 yearly attendance is on par 2011.



What is Revenue Base Diversity?

Revenue base diversity is defined as total city revenue base by source (e.g. local taxes, sales tax, utilities, business license fees, etc).

Why is Revenue Base Diversity important?

In 2009, the Sustainability Sounding Board recommended revenue base diversity as one of 13 'keystone' indicators of sustainability for the Issaquah community. The change in revenue base over time was seen as a core measure of the durability and breadth of the local economy. Furthermore, change in revenue also indicates Issaquah's ability to meet the needs of its residents and provide them with opportunities that may have otherwise been unavailable. These needs include investments in infrastructure, police services, parks and recreation, human services, fire and life safety, and other provisions.

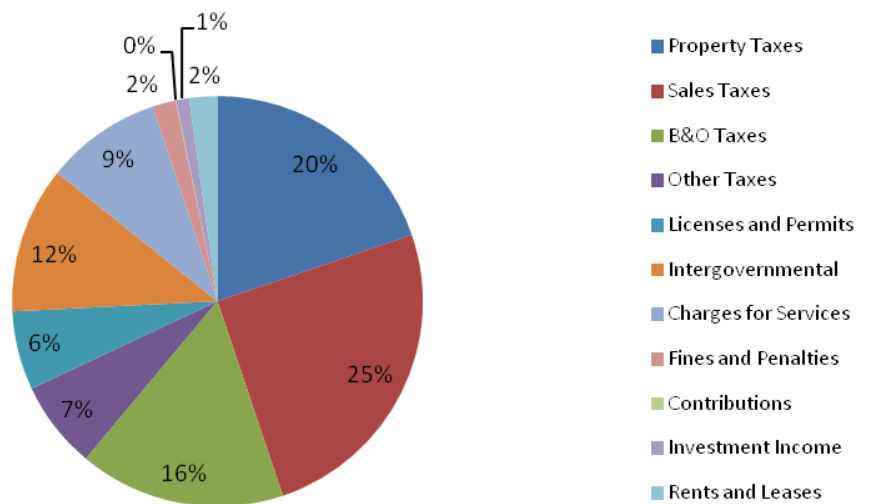
What are Issaquah's goals?

The City of Issaquah strives to encourage and maintain a robust local economy that can meet the needs of and provide opportunities to its residents. Specific targets for revenue base diversity have not been determined.

How is Issaquah doing?

- During the past 10 years, the City has become more reliant on property taxes and less on sales tax.
- The City's overall revenue base continued to decline in 2012 to approximately \$42.1 million from a recent high of approximately \$50.4 million in 2007, in part due to the recession.
- The City has received higher total revenues from property taxes, sales taxes, B&O taxes, licenses and permits, charges for services, fines and penalties, investment income, and rents and leases as the City has grown. Revenue has increased with population growth and helps to accommodate the needs of Issaquah's increasing population.

Revenue Base Diversity (2012)



What is quality of life?

Quality of life is resident perception of the quality of life in Issaquah. This indicator is in development.

Why is quality of life important?

Quality of life describes the opportunities for personal growth for Issaquah residents and Issaquah residents taking advantage of these opportunities. These opportunities can be expanded by local businesses, government, non-profits, community leaders, and community members. A higher quality of life leads to many positive outcomes for residents, which include a greater sense of place within the community, better health, and less stress.

What are Issaquah's goals?

Issaquah seeks to maintain and enhance the quality of life for all Issaquah residents by supporting programs which enhance personal and community living. These quality of life enhancement policies include:

- Supporting quality education.
- Working cooperatively with businesses and the community to support programs that contribute to Issaquah's quality of life.
- Ensuring that the government provides quality services and excellent infrastructure.
- Improving opportunities for recreational enjoyment of open space by providing a continuous network of trails, neighborhood parks, and recreational facilities.
- Supporting programs that provide affordable opportunities for seniors and persons with disabilities to participate in recreational and cultural activities.
- Preserving and rehabilitating resources of historic, cultural or aesthetic significance.

Issaquah does not have specific targets associated with these outcomes.

How is Issaquah doing?

This indicator is in development

Resources and Actions

None

Community Highlight

None

What is volunteerism?

Volunteerism measures the percentage of residents who volunteer and total hours volunteered in City or community programs. Because data on volunteerism is not currently available for community programs, it is currently illustrated through hours volunteered for City or City sponsored programs.

Why is volunteerism important?

By volunteering Issaquah residents improve the quality of life in Issaquah for themselves and others, which is fundamental to building a more sustainable community. In 2009, the Sustainability Sounding Board recommended volunteerism as one of the 13 'keystone' indicators of sustainability for the Issaquah community.

What are Issaquah's goals?

The City of Issaquah benefits from and supports volunteers in many of its program and service offerings within the community. A specific volunteerism target does not currently exist.

How is Issaquah doing?

Issaquah is moving in the right direction.

- Volunteerism for City programs has increased over the last five years, which indicates that residents are improving the quality of life of other residents through volunteering.
- Volunteer time is worth \$21.18 per hour.² Total volunteer hours in City programs, including recreation, stream restoration and other activities exceeded 44,200 hours in 2012, on par with 2011, but nearly 2.5 times more than just 5 years ago. This equates to almost 1 million dollars worth of time invested in our community.
- Volunteers for other organizations in community, such as religious organizations, Salmon Days, and Rotary, also have a huge and lasting impact on the Issaquah Community. The usage of volunteerism for City programs is not meant to undermine the value of these programs, but rather suggest a trend within Issaquah.

What can I do to help?

Volunteer! For opportunities, go to <http://www.mtsgreenway.org/volunteer> or <http://seattletilth.org/get-involved/volunteer/index.html> to volunteer with the Mountains to Sound Greenway or Seattle Tilth. You may also contact the City Office of Sustainability directly to volunteer at: <http://www.ci.issaquah.wa.us/Page.asp?NavID=2131>.

UWKC <http://www.uwkc.org/volunteer/default.asp>

What is voter turnout?

Voter turnout is defined as the percentage of registered voters who vote in general and local elections and the percentage of eligible voters who are registered.

What are Issaquah's goals?

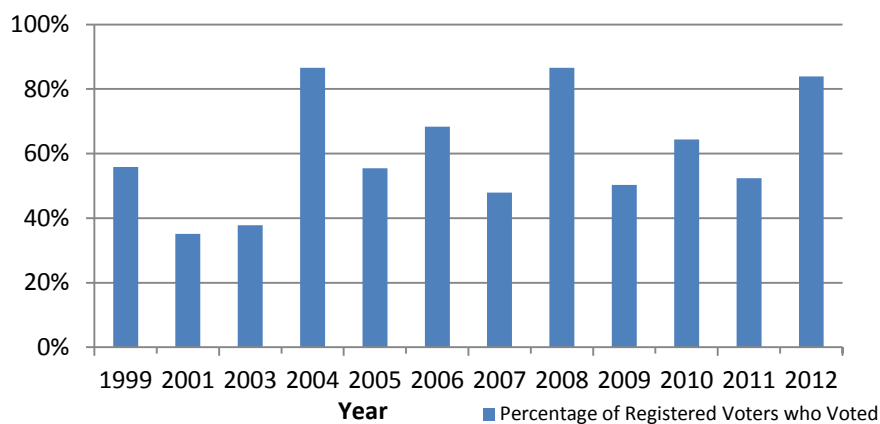
Issaquah strives to increase voter turnout in elections as well as the number of registered voters in the Issaquah.

How is Issaquah doing?

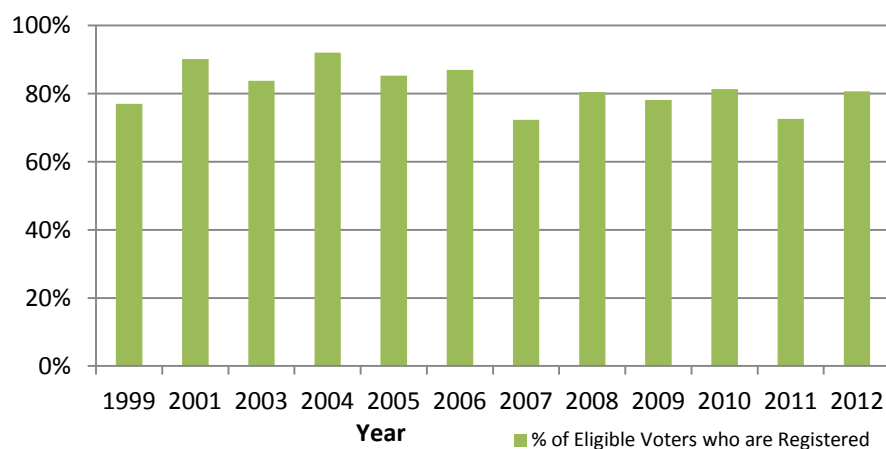
Issaquah is doing the same as neighboring cities and King County.

This graph displays the percentage of registered voters who voted in elections. This graph also indicates to cyclical nature of elections and how more people vote in presidential election cycles. Nevertheless Issaquah maintains a strong percentage of voting citizens.

Percentage of Registered Voters who Voted



% of Eligible Voters who are Registered



What is Education?

The indicators for education are still in development. However, the Sustainability Sounding Board identified three key areas of sustainability that should be addressed:

1. Pre-kindergarten
2. Kindergarten through 12th grade
3. Adult education

Currently, the primary data for the education community indicator is being tracked by the Issaquah School District through the extended graduation rate, school safety and advanced placement class enrollment and other metrics as noted below.

Why is Education Important?

The quality of education – both formal and community-based – is paramount to each individual's ability to achieve their goals and positively contribute to a sustainable society. Issaquah residents value education at all ages, and believe it is important to invest in education so that citizens feel empowered to enhance the quality of their lives and their community.

What are Issaquah's Goals?

The Issaquah School District strives to prepare all students for the academic, occupational, personal, and practical challenges of life in a dynamic global environment. While students continually rank among the best in the state and nation in assessments, schools here annually create research-based plans to challenge, support, and move every student forward to higher levels of learning. Accordingly, the Issaquah School District tracks graduation rates and SAT scores as indicators of student success.

How is Issaquah Doing?

- 80 percent of Class of 2011 graduates are continuing their education: 67 percent of those are at a four-year institution; 28 percent of those are at a community college. Remaining 5 percent are at a trade school. (Decision Research)
- SAT scores—the average SAT score for the class of 2012 was 1718, which exceeded both the state average of 1545 and the national average of 1498. (College Board)
- Student extended graduation rate: 94.5 percent (OSPI)
- Student discipline rate: Incidents of suspension or expulsion equaled 1.1 percent of entire student population last school year.
- Student substance abuse rate: 0 percent of sixth-graders and 5 percent of 10th-graders reported using illegal drugs in the past 30 days; 1 percent of sixth-graders and 10-percent of 10th-graders report having drunk five or more drinks in a row in the past two weeks. (Healthy Youth 2012)
- Students that feel safe at school: 92 percent of sixth-graders and 89 percent of 10th-graders reported feeling safe at school. (Healthy Youth 2012)
- Percent of 11th- and 12th-graders enrolled in advanced courses (IB, AP, College in High School): 58.7 percent (Issaquah has been named to the AP Honor Roll twice for number of students taking and passing Advanced Placement courses)
- Percent of students passing out of all AP and IB tests taken: 84.9 percent (Issaquah has been named to the AP Honor Roll twice for number of students taking and passing Advanced Placement courses)

Community Highlight

- The Issaquah School District is a leader in resource conservation practices and has been involved in conservation efforts for more than a decade. The District has been formally participating in the King County Green Schools since 2005 and while participating in the Green Schools program, the District has practiced energy, and water conservation and improved their recycling rate to more than 50 percent. Of the district's 24 schools, 21 have been recognized as Level One Green Schools and seven of those have completed Level Two and four have completed Level Three. In 2013, Issaquah completed the program's Level Two energy conservation criteria—only two other districts in the county share this distinction. In the past decade, Issaquah schools have grown more than an additional 30 percent in total building space while using 4 percent less energy overall.
- The District students, teachers and custodians at many schools have also been the recipient of the Earth Heroes awards (Apollo Elementary, Beaver Lake Middle School, Briarwood Elementary School, Creekside Elementary School, Discovery Elementary School, Endeavor Elementary School, Issaquah Middle School, Issaquah Valley Elementary School, Maywood Middle School, Newcastle Elementary School, Sunny Hills Elementary School, Sunset Elementary, Pine Lake Middle School, Cascade Ridge Elementary School).

Note: An update to the Current and Planned Density indicator occurs once every five years and is scheduled for 2015, correlating with the Buildable Lands update. Data on the indicator for 2010 is available on the City's Sustainability Indicators website.

What is current and planned density?

Current and planned density is defined as achieved residential density in developable areas during periods of 5 years and the 25-year plan for density for developable areas.

Why is current and planned density important?

Current and planned density is seen as key to understanding how well the City of Issaquah is managing growth. Smart growth focuses development in walkable, transit supportive and traditional neighborhood and town center design focused upon livability, and simultaneously uses infrastructure more efficiently, preserves natural open spaces, provides for more efficient transportation and promotes local economic vitality among other sustainability objectives. Higher residential densities and mixed-use buildings in key areas will promote these sustainability objectives.

What are Issaquah's goals?

Targets for density are an implicit part of this indicator, generally identified in zoning density classifications, capturing planned densities in developable areas for each zoning category.

What are green buildings?

Green buildings is measured by the number of LEED and Built Green certified buildings as a percentage of Issaquah's overall building stock.

Why are Green Buildings important?

Green buildings use sustainable materials and green technology to reduce pollution and resource use and protect vital habitat, watersheds, and natural areas throughout Issaquah. In 2009, the Sustainability Sounding Board recommended green buildings as an indicator of sustainability for the Issaquah community.

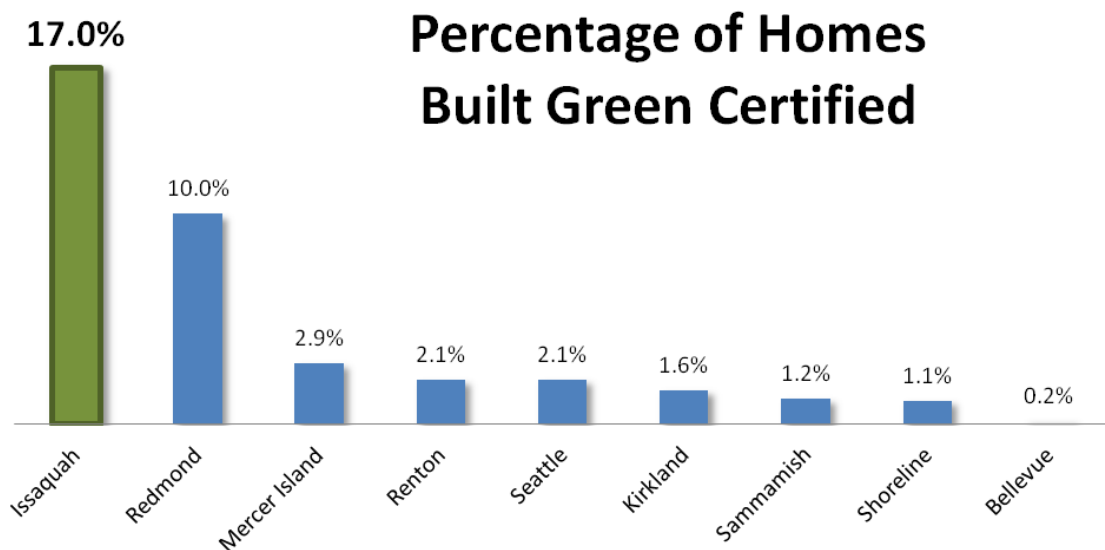
What are Issaquah's goals?

Issaquah strives to increase the number of LEED certified and Built Green certified buildings to promote elements of sustainability in the natural environment by expanding sustainable building programs.

How is Issaquah doing?

Issaquah is moving in the right direction

- 20 LEED certified buildings have been built since 2003, totaling 2,029,008 square feet of United States Green Building Council certified sustainable buildings.
- The City of Issaquah's percentage of Built Green certified homes is 17% of total housing stock, which is a substantial on its own and as compared to neighboring communities.
- In 2011, the City, along with a diverse set of partners, opened zHome, the nation's first zero net energy multifamily housing project.
- In 2012, two projects received national recognition through the prestigious industry ASHRAE Technology Awards, the City's Maple Street Fire Station 72 and the new Swedish Medical Center and Hospital.



What is population density?

Population density measures the average number of residents per acre in each sub-area in Issaquah. Each subarea is categorized into three different levels, based on its population density. Level one is for sub-areas with less than 6 people per acre; level 2 is for subareas with greater than 6 and less than 40 people per acre; level 3 is for sub-areas with greater than 40 people per acre.

What are Issaquah's targets?

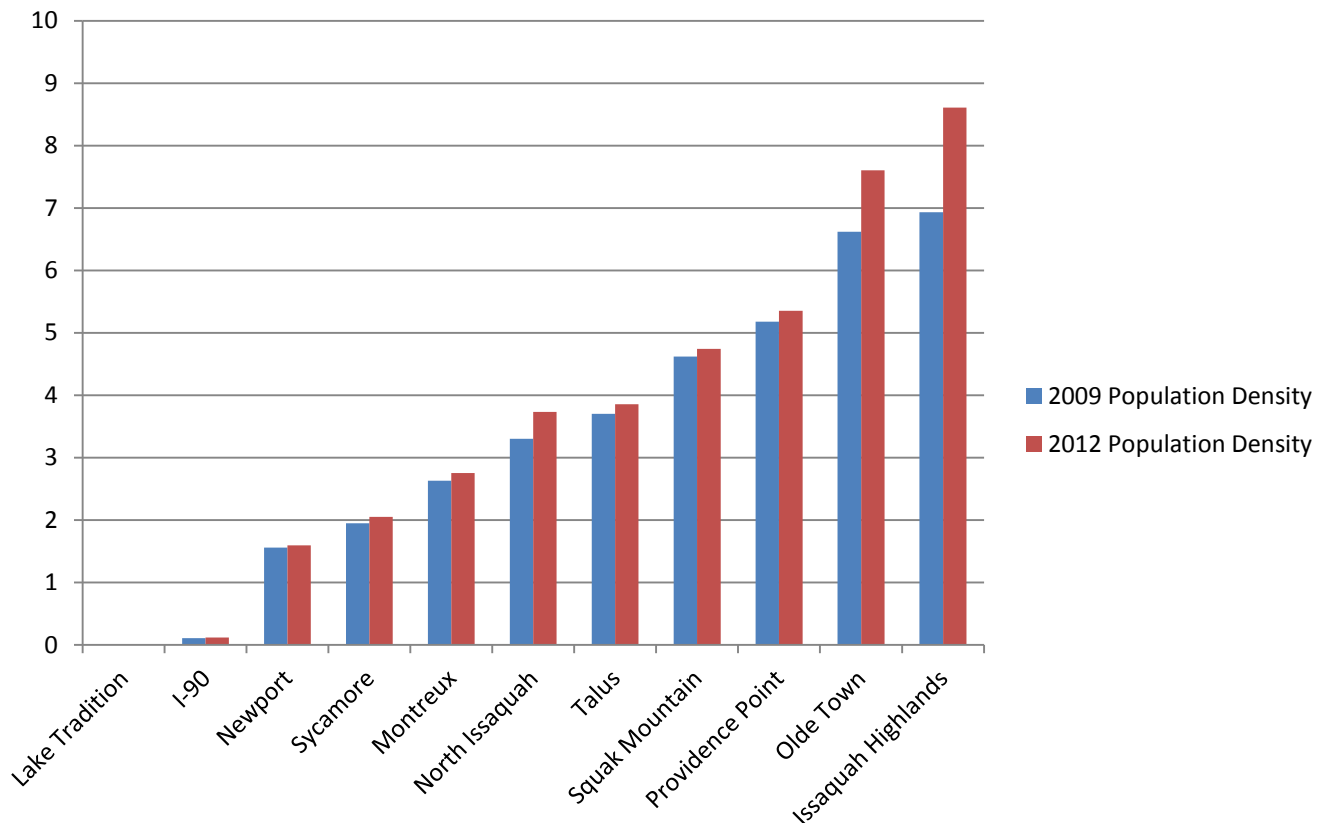
Higher population density in appropriate areas will help Issaquah achieve:

- Reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.
- Lower pollution, through less vehicular travel.

These appropriate areas include areas throughout Gilman, Newport, I-90 and Olde Towne subareas as established in the land use code. The development of the Central Issaquah Plan (CIP) provides a significant opportunity for the City to manage growth which is more sustainable and livable within the regional context.

How is Issaquah doing?

Density in Issaquah has increased in each sub-area from 2009 to 2012.



Natural Areas and Open Space

PRESERVED NATURAL OPEN SPACE

2013 Update

What is preserved natural and open space?

Preserved natural and open space is defined as the percentage of acres city-wide in parks, stream and wildlife corridors and preserved natural areas.

Why is preserved natural and open space important?

As Issaquah grows and changes, it is critical that we protect its beauty and natural areas. These assets can provide habitat, recreation, and essential ecological functions.

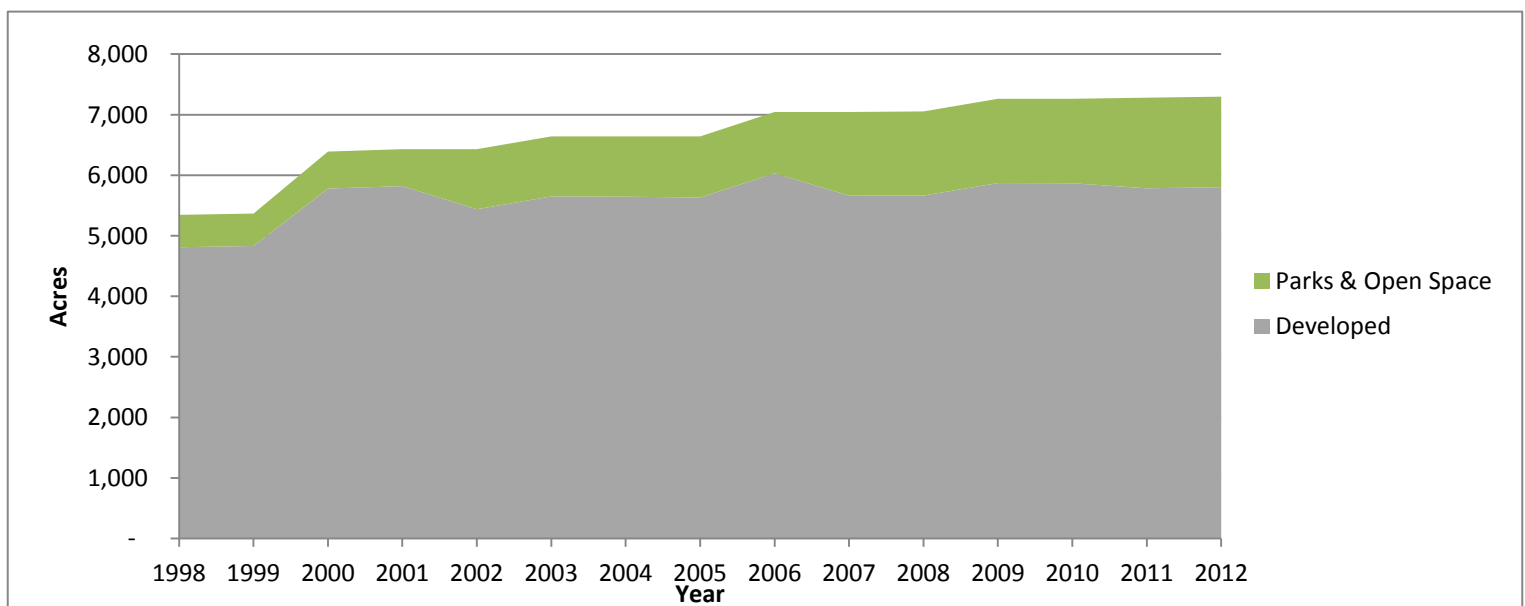
What are Issaquah's goals?

Issaquah seeks to increase the percentage of acres preserved in open space, although no specific target exists.

How is Issaquah doing?

Issaquah is maintaining a significant percentage of acres of preserved open space.

- The percentage of open space has steadily increased. No open space acreage was added in 2012.
- Approximately 20.5% of the City's total acreage is in parks and natural open spaces, up from 15.4% just 10 years ago.



What is food grown locally?

Food grown locally is measured by farmer's market sales by product type.

Why is food grown locally important?

A piece of produce in a typical grocery store travels over 1,500 miles on its way from farm to consumer. These significant 'food miles' result in impacts due to shipping and economically, the transfer of 'food dollars' outside of the community and away from area farmers. Supporting local food production helps ensure that the Issaquah community supports a secure regional food supply connected to northwest values and supportive of local businesses. In 2009, the Sustainability Sounding Board recommended food grown locally as a measure of sustainability for the Issaquah community.

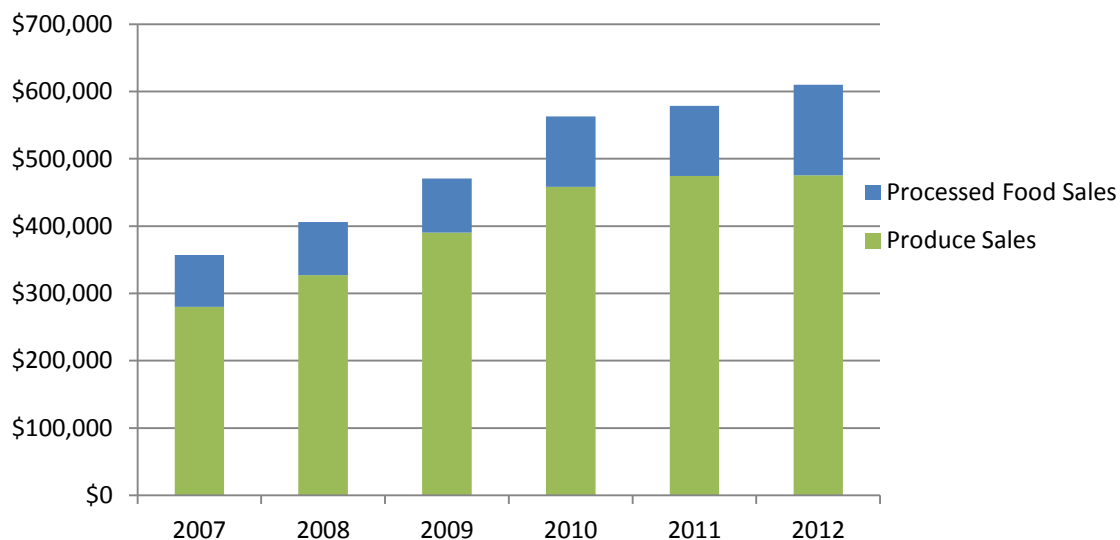
What are Issaquah's goals?

Regarding food production, Issaquah will permit small scale agriculture, horticulture and hobby farm activities to continue where existing or where such uses would not adversely impact critical areas or the character of the surrounding area.

How is Issaquah doing?

- The Issaquah Farmer's Market product sales continue to increase. There was a 29.5% increase from 2011 to 2012 for produce and processed food sales. In 2012 produce sales totaled \$475,221 and processed food sales totaled \$134,864.
- The City of Issaquah partners with Seattle Tilth to maintain the Pickering Garden, which produces fresh, organic produce for families served by the Issaquah Food Bank. Seattle Tilth also holds classes at the Pickering Garden to teach residents and students how to garden at their own homes.

Farmer's Market Sales



What is stream health?

Stream health is measured by the biological condition of local streams. This is measured through a sampling of water-borne stream insects (benthic macro-invertebrate species) and evaluation of the Benthic Index of Biotic Integrity (B-IBI). The B-IBI ranges from 0 to 50, 0 being very poor and 50 being excellent. Conditions are further categorized as very poor (10-16), poor (18-26), fair (28-36), good (38-44), excellent (46-50).

Why is stream health important?

Healthy streams support salmon and other wildlife habitats, and reflect the overall quality of surrounding open space and forested areas as well as the impacts of development, pesticide and fertilizer use, flooding, and other activities. In 2009, the Sustainability Sounding Board recommended stream health as an indicator of sustainability for the Issaquah community.

What are Issaquah's goals?

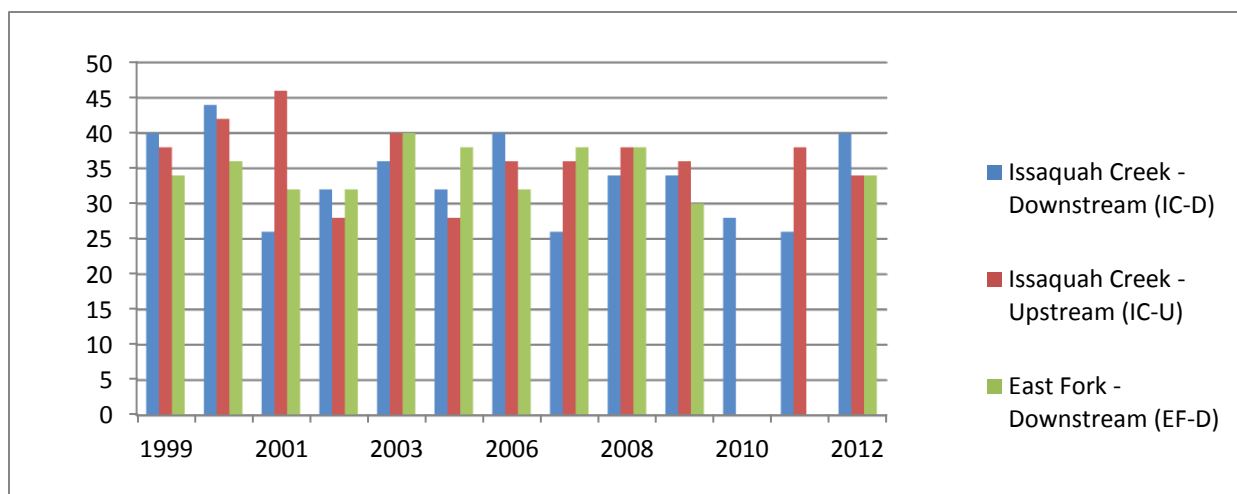
Issaquah strives to increase stream health, by decreasing water runoff from roads, land, parking areas, lawns and roofs.

How is Issaquah doing?

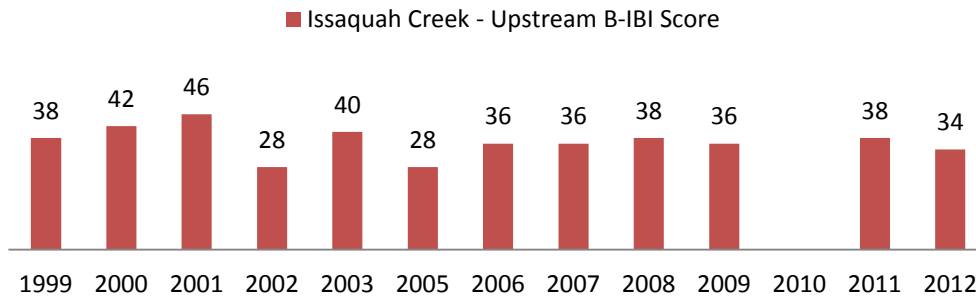
Inconclusive

Tracking the changes in the B-IBI score at a site over time can give an indication of the trend in the health of the sites. However, many of the monitoring stations have limited data, and data can vary based on sampling method and skill of samplers. The most complete sets of data are for Issaquah Creek Upstream, Issaquah Creek Downstream, and East Fork Issaquah Creek Downstream.

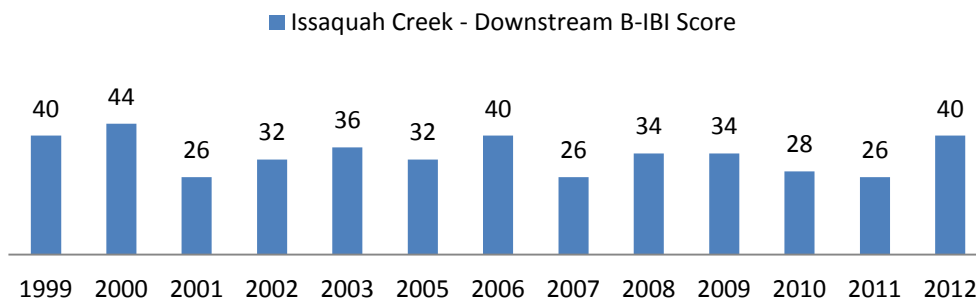
Predicting trends from limited data sets is generally inconclusive, but can be used as a basis against which future data can be measured. Comparing the data collected at Issaquah Creek Upstream, Downstream, and East fork Downstream shows that our stream health is consistently in the fair to good range with occasional readings in the excellent range.



Stream Health



Stream Health



In comparison to the rest of the region, the water quality in Issaquah is better than many of the more urbanized areas. Look at local data from the entire region at <http://pugetsoundstreambenthos.org/Default.aspx>.

Resources and Actions

- Come help monitor for Macroinvertebrates in August or September each year. Contact the Office of Sustainability at sustainability@issaquahwa.gov
- Follow natural yard care, eco-friendly car washing and other stream friendly practices at home and at work. Find out more at: www.pugetsoundstartshere.org
- Properly dispose of hazardous waste
 - General KC Hazardous Waste Site <http://www.lhwmp.org/home/BHW/index.aspx>
 - Household hazardous waste <http://your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/facilities/hazwaste.asp>
 - Small Business Hazardous Waste Disposal <http://www.lhwmp.org/home/BHW/documents/1001SQGhazDISPfly.pdf>

Natural Areas and Open Space

TREE CANOPY

2013 Update

What is tree canopy?

Tree canopy is measured as city-wide tree canopy coverage through aerial surveys.

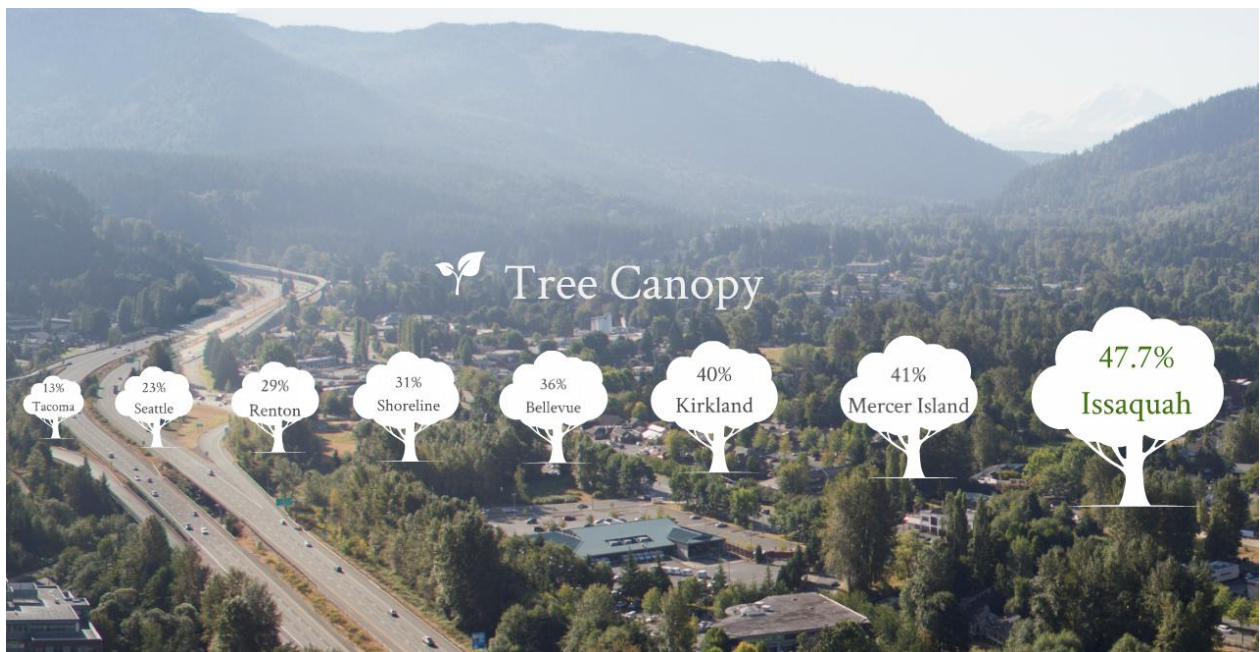
What are Issaquah's targets?

In 2008, Issaquah adopted targets for tree canopy coverage of 51% of total land within Issaquah and no net loss of overall coverage.

How is Issaquah doing?

In 2012 the City of Issaquah established a baseline summary of the City's Urban Tree Canopy (UTC). Aerial photography classified land cover and demonstrated where it is possible to plant trees in the future in order to meet Issaquah's current tree canopy cover goal of 51%. Issaquah is comprised of 48% tree cover, 31% impervious surfaces, 17% non-forest vegetation, 4% soil and 1% water.

Compared to neighboring communities, Issaquah possesses the highest percentage of tree canopy. Previously, the city calculated the tree canopy to be 51% of the city acreage. The updated data is not considered a decrease in city canopy but instead reflects the study's increased technology sophistication.



Cross-cutting Indicator CARBON FOOTPRINT

(revised September 2013)

2013 Update

What is a carbon footprint?

A carbon footprint is a measure of the greenhouse gas pollution associated with our activities. It measures the total carbon dioxide and carbon dioxide equivalent greenhouse gas emissions produced within the Issaquah community. The indicator describes emissions by sector (i.e. transportation, residential, industrial, commercial, waste and other sources).

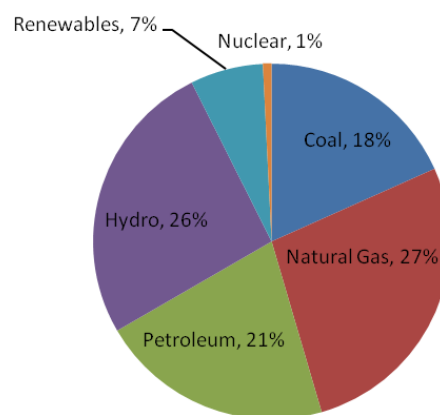
Why is a carbon footprint important?

Carbon emissions are linked to climate change and associated adverse impacts to humans and natural systems. There is scientific consensus that human based actions, primarily the burning of fossil fuels for energy, but also deforestation, industrial and commercial processes are the primary driver of climate change. Changes to the climate impact our health, transportation systems, forests, coastlines, emergency management, agriculture and food and water resources – all of which are fundamentally connected to our economic and societal foundations.

Locally, climate studies at the University of Washington Climate Impacts Group identify multiple, related impacts on natural resources, human health, wildlife, water supplies, stream flows, agriculture, regional economics and other considerations. The *Washington State Integrated Climate Response Strategy* notes the following impacts associated with a two degree centigrade increase in temperatures:

- 44% decline in spring snowpack across Washington State
- 14-29% increase in the magnitude (i.e. amount of precipitation) of 24 hour storm events in the Seattle-Tacoma area
- More extreme river flooding. At a temperature increase of roughly 3°C, the 100-year flood event for the Green River near Auburn could increase in magnitude up to 76% - with a similar range projected for the Snohomish River

Community Wide Energy Fuel Mix by Source (2012)



In 2009, the Sustainability Sounding Board recommended carbon footprint as one of 13 'keystone' indicators of sustainability for the Issaquah community.

What are Issaquah's goals?

Issaquah has adopted a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target of 80% by the year 2050, with a base year of 2007.

Washington State has adopted greenhouse gas emissions requirements, limiting emissions to 50% below 1990 levels by 2050.

In addition, Mayor Ava Frisinger has joined over 500 mayors to endorse the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

How is Issaquah doing?

Greenhouse gas emissions have decreased approximately 1.9% from 2007 to 2012, concurrent with a downturn in the economy over this same period of time. Historically, emissions generally have followed growth in the city as the number of residents, for example, has increased from 24,710 persons in 2007 to 31,150 persons in 2012. During this time, however, total carbon emissions per capita has declined from approximately 11.4 to 8.9 tons per person, and residential energy use per house has also declined significantly as the newer housing stock has become more energy efficient.

Issaquah is one of only a few Cities in King County with a formally adopted greenhouse gas emissions target. Several policies also are aimed at reducing Issaquah's carbon footprint. Projects such as zHome, LED streetlight retrofits, Municipal building retrofits, electric vehicle infrastructure, waste reduction and trip reduction strategies are aimed at reducing emissions. The City is currently developing a climate and sustainability strategy as well as a bike and pedestrian master plan for the community.

Comparing 2007 and 2012 emissions:

Sector	Estimated GHG Emissions (metric tons of CO ₂ e)			
	2007	%	2012	%
Residential	81,970	29.2%	82,480	29.9%
Commercial	92,330	32.8%	93,050	33.7%
Industrial	13,870	4.9%	11,730	4.3%
Transportation	92,920	33.1%	88,630*	32.1%
Waste	n/a		n/a	
Total	281,090		275,890	

**Based upon 2011 PSRC data available at the time. Sector emissions updated September 2013 with 2012 fuel mix data.*

Resources and Actions

Find your personal carbon footprint: Check out the EPA's carbon calculator to see where you could reduce your footprint. http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ind_calculator.html

What is Transportation by Type?

Transportation by type is the percentage of total travel trips by the type of transportation (i.e. foot, bicycle, drive alone vehicle, car/vanpool, bus, and rail). Since data is unavailable for the travel patterns of all Issaquah residents, transportation by type trends are estimated using data from the Commute Trip Reduction survey that captures the commuting trends of employees of businesses with more than 100 employees.

What are Issaquah's goals?

Reduce auto-travel and encourage alternate forms of transportation.

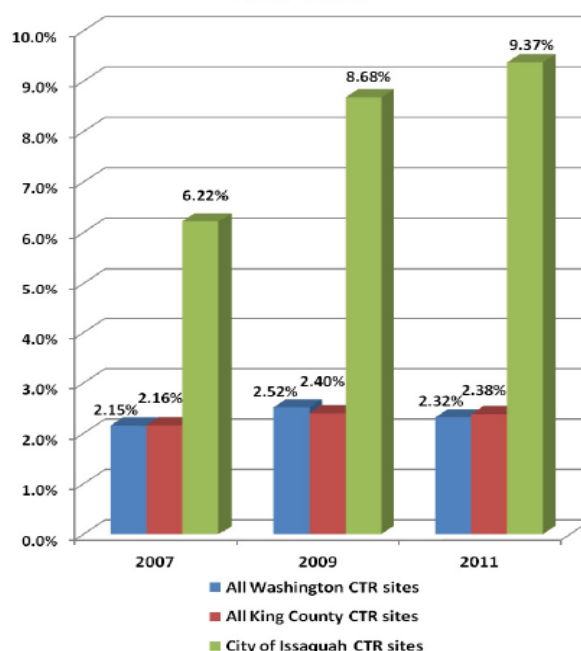
- 10% reduction in Single-Occupancy Vehicle travel by 2011 from 2006 levels (equivalent to a drive-alone rate of 66%).
- 13% reduction in Vehicle Miles Traveled

How is Issaquah doing?

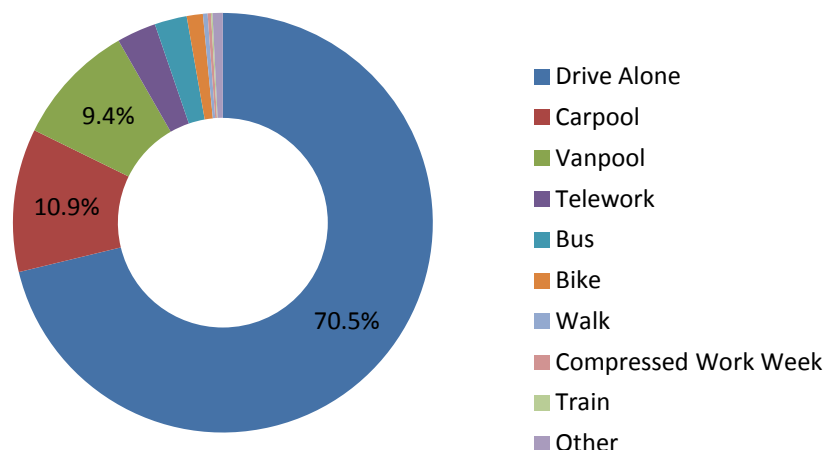
Issaquah is moving in the right direction but not meeting goals.

For businesses with more than 100 employees, the most recent snapshot revealed that the vanpool share rate slightly increased, while the carpool rate slightly decreased. Issaquah is not meeting the drive alone goal of 10% reduction in vehicle travel from 2006 levels. Bike riding has increased and 3 of the top 25 vanpool companies in the State are in Issaquah. Issaquah vanpooling has grown steadily from 6.2% in 2007 to 9.4% in 2011.

Changes in Vanpool mode share
2007-2011



Travel Mode Split



Note: in 2013 the City is developing a Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. Following this project, the walkability indicator is planned to be updated to better reflect needs and progress within the community. An update to Walkability is pending.

What is walkability?

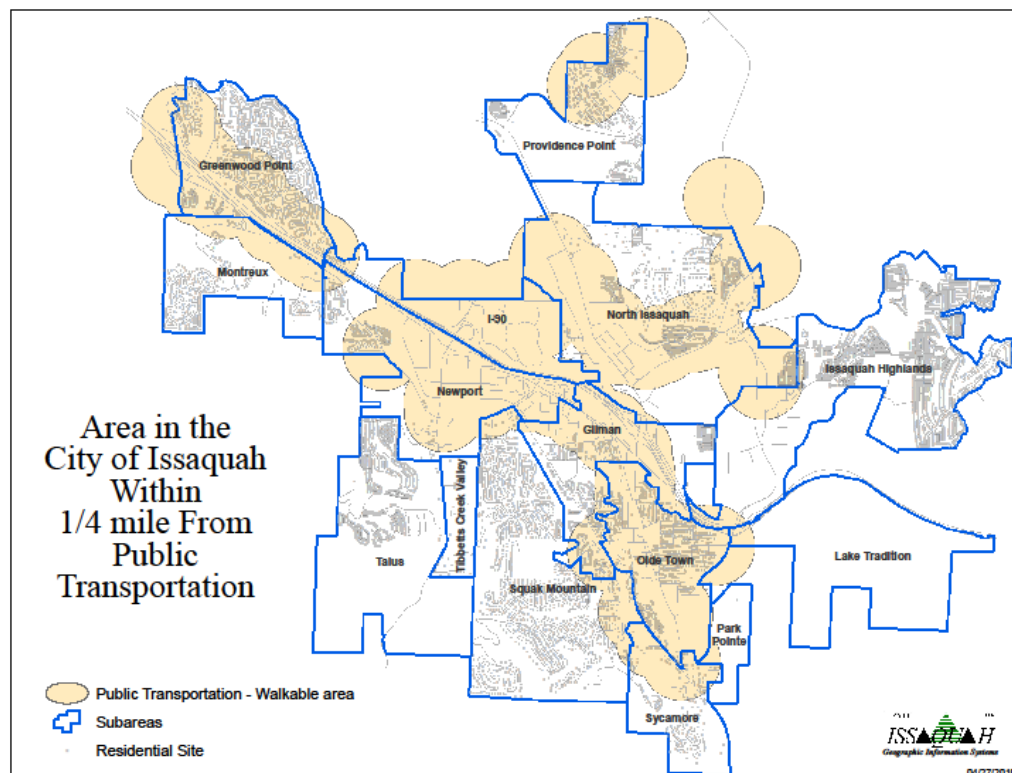
Walkability is defined as the percentage of residents who live within a walkable (generally within ¼ mile) distance of essential services (i.e. schools, retail, grocery, parks and open space, health services, and public transportation).

Why is walkability important?

Walkability is influenced by a range of issues, including urban design, pedestrian, bike and transit access, business district development and mixed use housing, among others. Walkable communities are often characterized by positive improvements in public health, thriving local businesses, transportation options, and smart growth patterns which use infrastructure efficiently and preserve sensitive natural areas. Walkability is a key indicator of livability of a community.

What are Issaquah's goals?

Issaquah seeks to create livable housing and neighborhoods for all residents, but no specific target currently exists for walkability.



What is renewable energy use?

Renewable energy use is defined as the percentage of citywide energy use from renewable sources such as wind, geothermal and solar sources. The indicator tracks use as a percentage of total city-wide energy use, and average consumption of energy per person by different sources (e.g. hydropower, coal, natural gas, wind, etc).

Why is renewable energy use important?

Renewable energy reduces pollution and resource use, while encouraging ongoing investment in energy sources which do not rely upon fossil fuels. Such investments guarantee that the region will be able to continue to provide energy to its residents now and well into the future. In 2009, the Sustainability Sounding Board recommended renewable energy use as an indicator of sustainability for the Issaquah community.

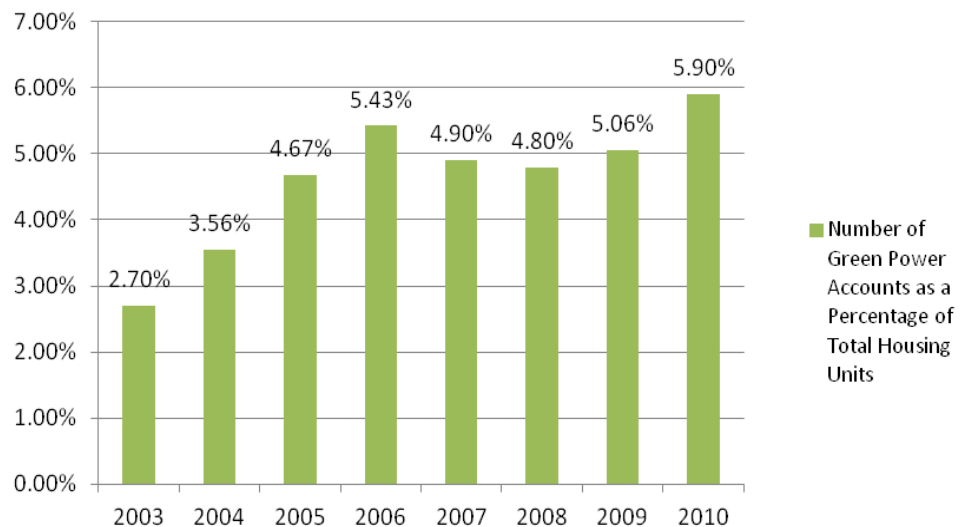
What are Issaquah's goals?

Increased purchases of renewable energy by Issaquah businesses and residents will reduce pollution and climate contributing emissions. A specific target does not currently exist, but leading communities, such as Bellingham, Washington have demonstrated green power participation rates of 13% or more.

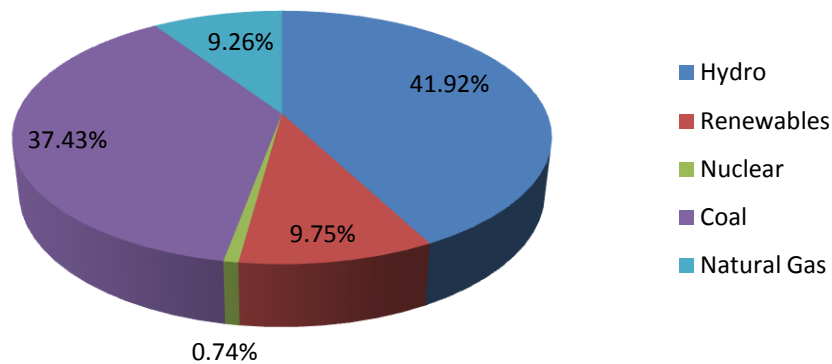
How is Issaquah doing?

- Since it began, the number of households enrolled in the Green Power Program has more than doubled, increasing from 208 in 2003 to 761 in 2010.
- The percentage of households participating in the Green Power Program has more than doubled over the same period, increasing from 2.7% to 5.9%.
- More than a third (37.4%) of Issaquah electricity supplies come from coal fired electricity generation in western Montana. Among the electricity generation sources in our supply mix, coal emits the highest greenhouse gas pollution emissions per unit of energy produced.

Green Power Participation



Electricity Generation by Source (2012)



Resources and Actions

- Be efficient! Conduct a [do-it-yourself home energy audit](#) and take some steps to be more efficient at home and work. Learn about [rebates available for efficiency upgrades from PSE](#).
- Learn about the sources of your energy and their climate impacts.
- Enroll in the Green Power Program
 - <http://www.pse.com/energyEnvironment/renewableenergy4/Pages/GreenPowerProgram.aspx>

What is energy use?

Energy use is defined as total energy use per capita and by sector.

Why is energy use important?

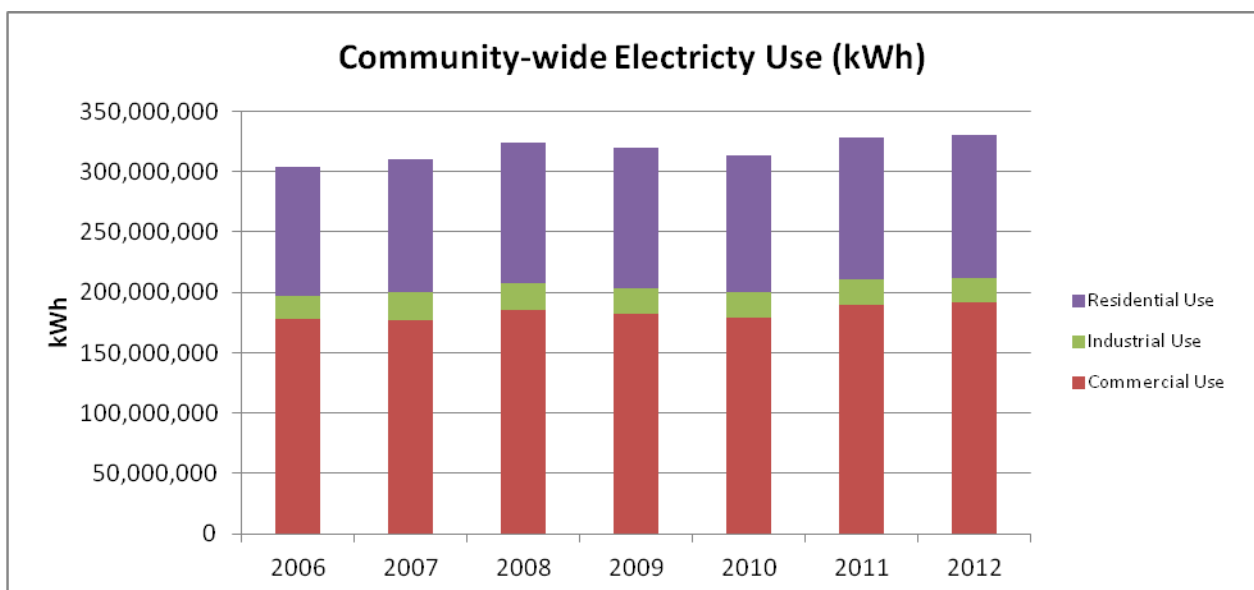
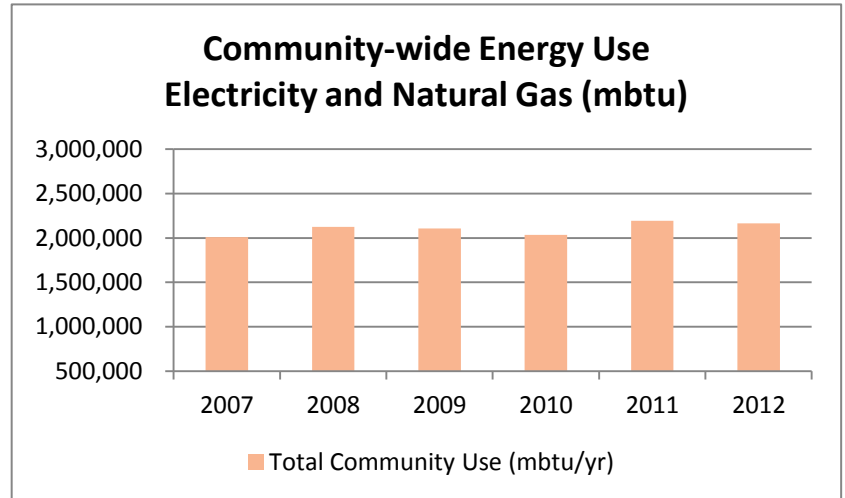
In 2009, the Sustainability Sounding Board recommended energy use as an indicator of sustainability for the Issaquah Community. Energy use creates pollution and depletes resources. Energy conservation will ensure that the region will be able to continue to provide energy to its residents now and well into the future.

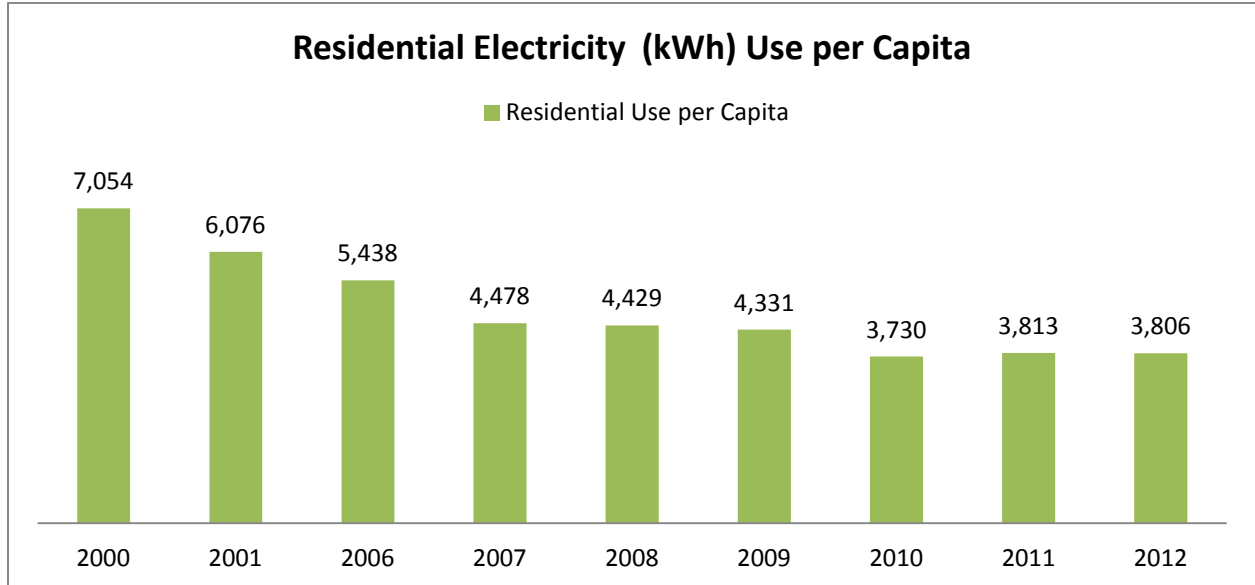
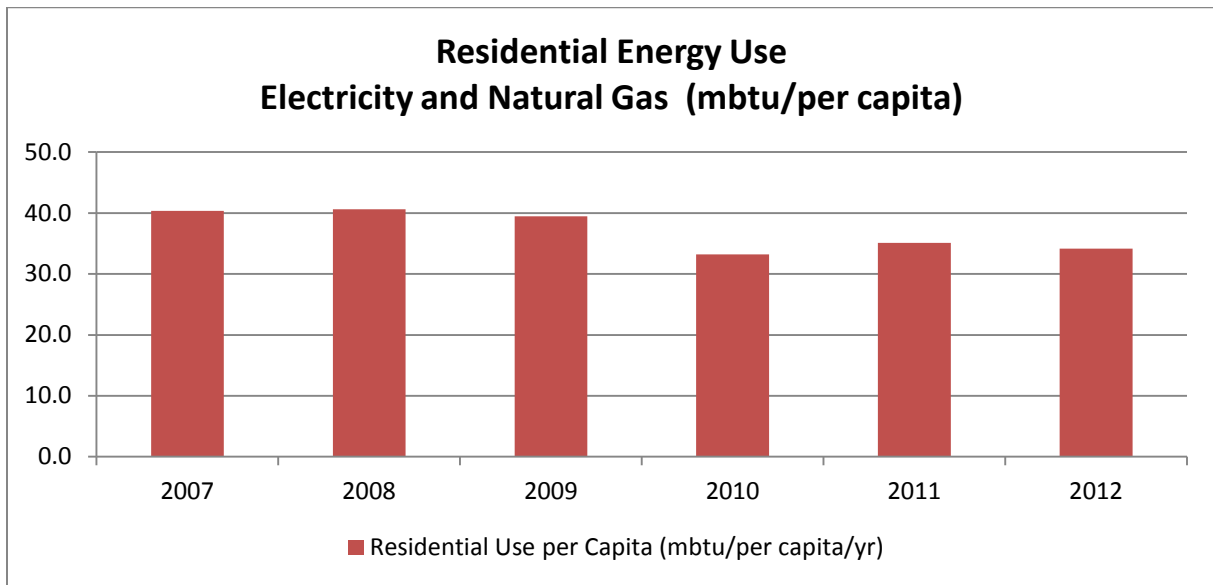
What are Issaquah's goals?

A specific target has not been determined. However, the City is in the process of developing a climate and energy strategy which will help to outline longer term goals for energy use efficiency and reduction of climate impact. In general, an increase in overall energy efficiency is expected to correlate with a decrease in per capita energy consumption.

How is Issaquah doing?

Total community wide energy use (natural gas and electricity) has been relatively flat over the period 2007-2012. Residential energy use per capita, however, has declined significantly since 2000, which is thought to reflect newer, more efficient and Built Green housing stock as well as increased appliance efficiency standards.





What is waste generation?

Waste generation is defined as the total waste generated, amount land-filled, and amount diverted (i.e. recycled, composted, etc.) by sector.

What are Issaquah's goals?

In line with the draft of the 2009 King County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, the City of Issaquah plans to decrease the total waste per capita, while increasing the recycling and composting rate for single family, multi-family, and commercial customers.

King County targets were formally adopted by the City of Issaquah in 2001, and are currently updated in the draft of the 2009 King County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.. Although currently not adopted, these targets include:

- Overall diversion rates to 55% by 2015 and 70% by 2020.
- Overall residential (both single family and multi-family) waste generation rates to 20.4 pounds per week per capita by 2020. This represents a 15% reduction from the disposal rate in 2007 of 24 pounds per week.
- Overall residential (both single family and multi-family) waste disposal rates to 14.2 pounds per week per capita by 2020. This represents a 15% reduction from the disposal rate in 2007 of 16.7 pounds per week per capita.

How is Issaquah doing?

Issaquah is moving in the right direction.

Total Waste

- Total (single and multifamily and commercial) waste generation in Issaquah has shown a consistent downwards trend since 2006.

Diversion Rates

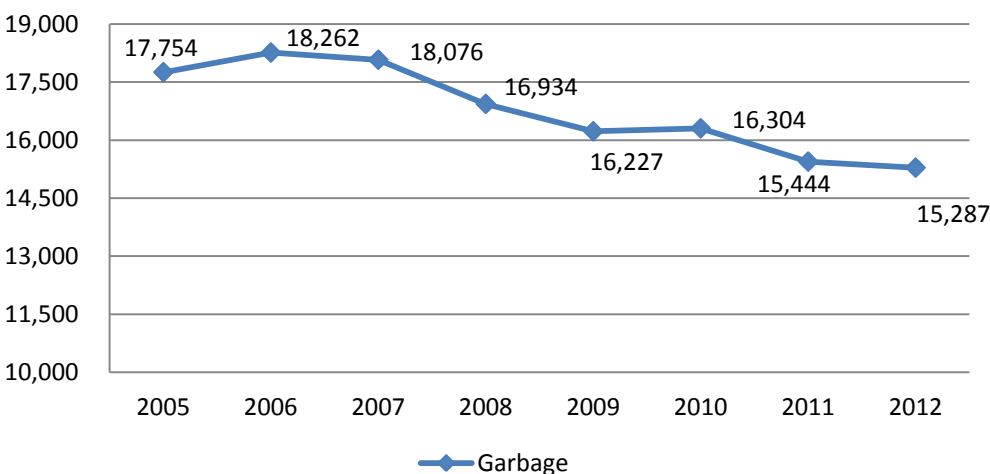
Diversion rates in 2012 were as follows:

- Single-family: 60.1%
- Multi-family: 25.8%
- Commercial: 35.9%

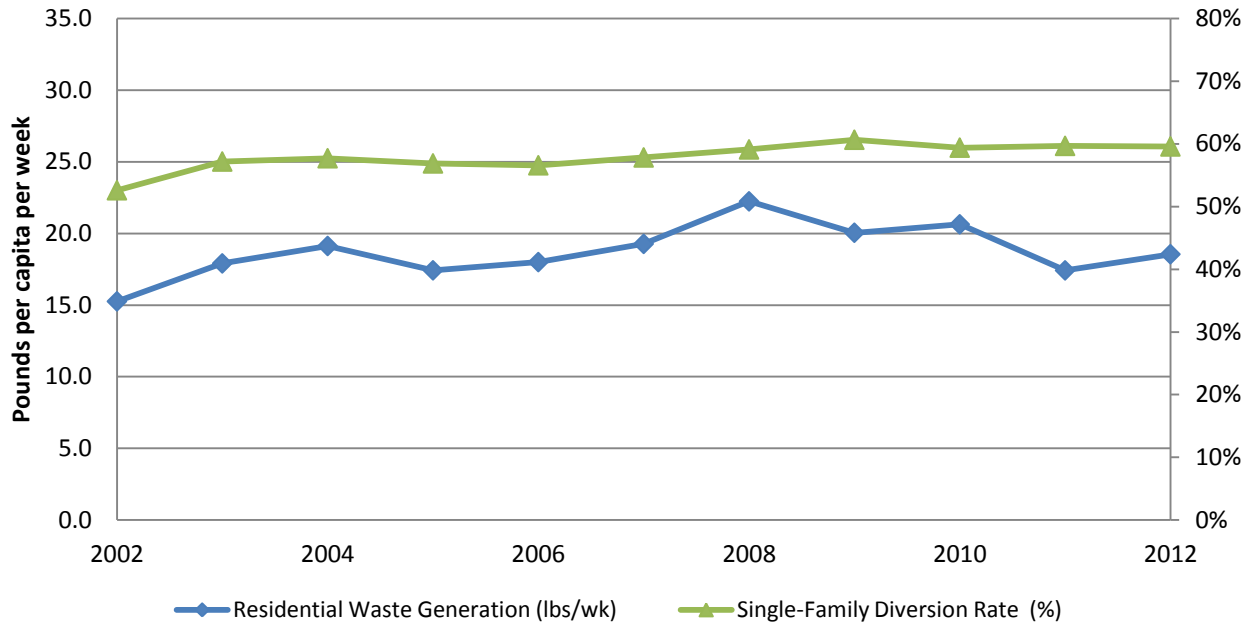
Per Capita Waste Generation

- Per capita waste generation in 2012 reached 14.3 pounds per week per capita, which exceeds City and regional targets for 2020!

Garbage Disposal (tons)



**Weekly Per Capita Residential Waste Generation (lbs/person/week) and
Single-Family Diversion Rate (%)**



Waste/Resource Use

WATER USE

2013 Update

Note: starting with 2012 updated methodology for determining water service area population figures was implemented, affecting comparison to prior years' methodology.

What is water use?

Water use is defined as total water use per capita and by sector (i.e. single family, multi-family, commercial, public property irrigation, private irrigation, public, and fire) as well as water supplied by source (i.e. groundwater and regional supplies).

Why is water use important?

Abundant and clean water is indicative of a healthy ecosystem and essential to protect human, plant and animal health. Clean drinking water is a basic community need and resource. As Issaquah grows, the demand for water has also grown. Water is a renewable resource, and with wise management there can be enough to meet the needs of people, businesses, natural resources, and wildlife.

What are Issaquah's goals?

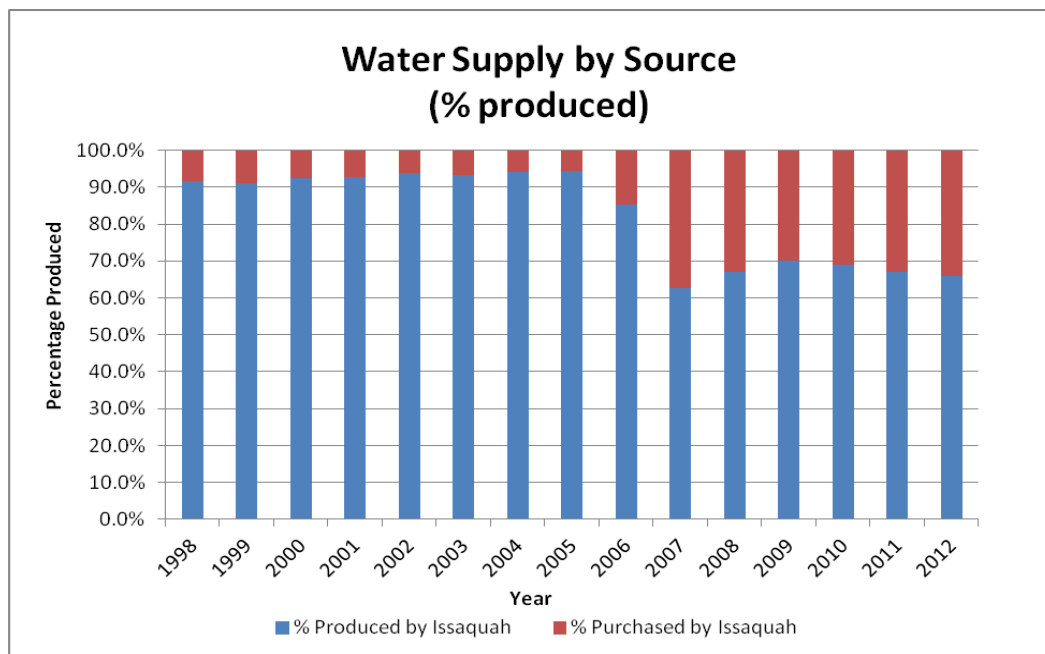
- Reduce water usage by conserving 15% per household by 2015 from 1995 levels.
- Reduce water usage by an average of 51,000 gallons per day by 2013 from 2008 levels.
- The City is planning to update water use targets in 2013 with the update to the City's Water System Plan.

How is Issaquah doing?

- Average daily water use by residents living in single-family homes and duplexes was approximately 48.9 gallons per person per day in 2012.
- Though it accounts for the highest percentage of water usage by sector (41.7% in 2012), single-family homes and duplexes has remained relatively stable as a

percentage of total water use by sector in the City from 2007 to 2012. As recently as 2001, the same sector was only 31.2% of total water use.

- Issaquah is purchasing considerably more water from outside sources than 10 years ago—34.1% in 2012 (249.8 million gallons) as compared to 6.0% in 2002 (38.3 million gallons). As Issaquah continues to grow, it has increasingly shifted to regional resources to meet its needs, while reducing demands on the Issaquah Valley Aquifer.



Water Use by Sector 2012

